Department of State

TELEGRAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: REACTION TO ARREST OF KIM DAE JUNG

1. FIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF KOREAN CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY AND UNIFICATION LED BY DR. CHAI CHOON KIM AND INCLUDING SUNG NO LEE, BROTHER-IN-LAW OF KIM DAE JUNG, VISITED KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR MARCH 12. GROUP EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ROK AND PRESENTED LETTER ADDRESSED TO SECRETARY REQUESTING USG ACTION TO EFFECT IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF KIM DAE JUNG AND 10 OTHERS ARRESTED FOR PARTICIPATION IN MARCH 1 STATEMENT.

2. KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR ACCEPTED LETTER BUT LIMITED COMMENT TO CALLING GROUP'S ATTENTION TO PRESS SPOKESMEN'S STATEMENT INDICATING OUR GENERAL CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE ROK.

3. WE UNDERSTAND GROUP HAS ALSO MADE CONGRESSIONAL CALLS.
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